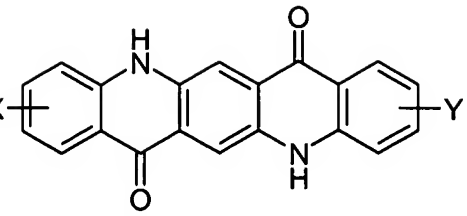
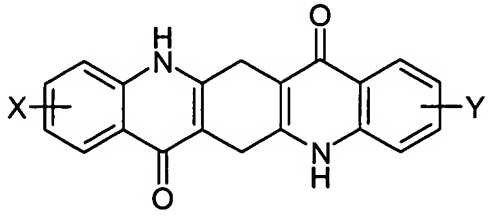
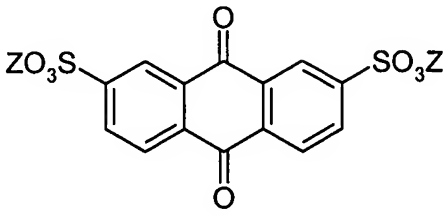
1. (original): A process for preparing a quinacridone of formula 

(I), which comprises oxidizing a salt of a 6,13-dihydroquinacridone of formula

 (II) with hydrogen peroxide in the presence of a catalyst

according to formula  (III), wherein X and Y are independently of

one another selected from the group consisting of H, F, Cl, C_1-C_3alkyl and C_1-C_3alkoxy, and each Z is independently of the other H, Na or K.

2. (currently amended): A process of claim 1, wherein the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone salt is an alkali metal salt[[,]] ~~preferably a mono- or disodium or a mono- or dipotassium salt or a mixture thereof, most preferred a di-sodium or di-potassium salt~~.

3. (original): A process of claim 1, wherein the oxidation step is carried out by combining a slurry consisting essentially of the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone salt, the catalyst, a base and a liquid phase, with an aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide.

4. (currently amended): A process of claim 3, wherein the liquid phase consists essentially of from 20 to 750 parts by weight of water and from 50 to 750 parts by weight of a lower alcohol[[,]] ~~preferably from 40 to 600 parts by weight of water and from 100 to 600 parts by weight of the alcohol~~[[,]] per 100 parts by weight of 6,13-dihydroquinacridone.

5. (currently amended): A process of claim 4, wherein the alcohol is a C_1 to C_3 alcohol[[,]] ~~preferably methanol~~.

6. (currently amended): A process of claim 3, wherein the base is an alkali metal hydroxide which is present in an amount of from 1 to 7 moles[[,]] ~~preferably from 2.2 to 5 moles~~[[,]] per mole of the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone.

7. (original): A process of claim 6, wherein the alkali metal hydroxide is sodium or potassium hydroxide, or a mixture thereof.

8. (currently amended): A process of claim 1, wherein the 2,7-anthraquinone-di-sulfonic acid catalyst is an alkali metal salt[[,]] ~~preferably the mono or di-sodium or mono or di-potassium salt~~ or a mixture thereof.

9. (currently amended): A process ~~of any~~ according to claim 1 ~~to 8~~, wherein the catalyst is present in an amount of from 0.005 to 0.1 times the weight of the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone.

10. (currently amended): A process according to ~~of any~~ claim 1 ~~to 9~~, wherein ~~a~~ from 1 to 50%, ~~preferably from 5 to 30%~~ by weight aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide is used.

11. (currently amended): A process ~~of any~~ according to claim 1 ~~to 10~~, wherein from 1.1 to 5 moles of hydrogen peroxide per mole of 6,13-dihydroquinacridone are used.

12. (currently amended): A process of claim 3, wherein the aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide is added to the slurry over an interval of from 5 minutes to 6 hours at a temperature of 30°C or more and the reaction medium is subsequently maintained, with stirring, at a temperature of 30°C or more[[,]] ~~preferably from 50°C to reflux temperature, for an interval of from 5 minutes to 5 hours, preferably from 5 minutes to 30 minutes~~[[,]] to complete the oxidation and promote pigment recrystallization.

13. (currently amended): A process ~~of any~~ according to claim 1 ~~to 12~~, wherein the oxidation step is carried out in the presence of from 0.05 to 8% by weight, based on the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone, of a particle growth inhibitor ~~preferably selected from the group consisting of phthalimidomethyl-, imidazolylmethyl- and pyrazolylmethyl-quinacridone; phthalimidomethyl- and o-benzosulfimidomethyl-6,13-dihydroquinacridone; and quinacridone monosulfonic acid and 1,4-diketo-3,6-diarylpyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole sulfonic acid and their salts~~.

14. (currently amended): A process ~~of any~~ according to claim 1 ~~to 13~~, wherein the quinacridone pigment is quinacridone, 2,9-dichloroquinacridone, 2,9-difluoroquinacridone, 4,11-dichloroquinacridone, 4,11-difluoroquinacridone, 2,9-dimethylqinacridone, 2,9-dimethoxyquinacridone or a quinacridone pigment solid solution ~~preferably~~ selected from the group consisting of quinacridone/2,9-dichloroquinacridone, quinacridone/4,11-dichloroquinacridone, quinacridone/2,9-dimethylquinacridone, quinacridone/2,9-dimethoxyquinacridone, 2,9-dichloroquinacridone/2,9-dimethylquinacridone, 2,9-dichloroquinacridone/2,9-dimethoxyquinacridone and 2,9-dimethylquinacridone/2,9-dimethoxyquinacridone solid solutions.

15. (currently amended): A process of claim 14, wherein the quinacridone pigment is the alpha, beta or gamma ~~(in particular gamma-I, gamma-II or gamma-III)~~ form of unsubstituted quinacridone.

16. (currently amended): A process ~~of any~~ according to claim 1 ~~to 15~~, wherein at least 96% by weight of the dihydroquinacridone is converted to the corresponding quinacridone.

17. (new): A process according to claim 1 wherein the 6,13-dihydroquinacridone salt is a di-sodium or di-potassium salt.

18. (new): A process of claim 3, wherein the liquid phase consists essentially of from 40 to 600 parts by weight of water and from 100 to 600 parts by weight of the alcohol, per 100 parts by weight of 6,13-dihydroquinacridone.

19. (new): A process of claim 5, wherein the alcohol is methanol.

20. (new): A process according to claim 13, wherein the particle growth inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of phthalimidomethyl-, imidazolylmethyl- and pyrazolylmethyl-quinacridone; phthalimidomethyl- and o-benzosulfimidomethyl-6,13-dihydroquinacridone; and quinacridone monosulfonic acid and 1,4-diketo-3,6-diarylpyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole sulfonic acid and their salts.